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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/057,682	01/24/2002	David C. Swift	VREX-0017USAAON00	8906
26665	7590	04/22/2005	EXAMINER	
REVEO, INC. 3 WESTCHESTER PLAZA ELMSFORD, NY 10523			CHAWAN, SHEELA C	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

2625

DATE MAILED: 04/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/057,682

Applicant(s)

SWIFT ET AL.

Examiner

Sheela C Chawan

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 4-19 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 January 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date Jan 17, 2003.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The Examiner has approved drawings filed on 1/24/02.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on Jan 17, 2003, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Election/Restriction

3. Claims 4 -19 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made without traverse filed on 12/21/04.

Applicant's election without traverse of species I, claims 1-3 filed on 12/21/04 is acknowledged.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1- 3, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Katayama et al., (US. 5,786,847).

As to claim 1, Katayama discloses a method for zooming a stereoscopic image (note, using zoom lenses allows to eliminate the undesirable parallax, such as vertical parallax based on the aberration of the optical axes in zooming operation, thereby

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reducing the fatigue in the stereoscopic viewing and alleviating the load of processing, column 5, lines 62- 67) comprising:

determining a parallax value for a region of the image (fig 3A the current field is divided into plural blocks within the image area, see fig 1 element 106R and 106L detected the amount of motion between the fields (or frames) of the images with respect to CCD 101R and 101L. The motion detection units 106R, 106L detect the motion vectors between the image of the current field and that of the preceding field which unify the motion vectors of the blocks, then determine a representative value (x, y) of the motion vectors of the current field, column 3, lines 9-15, column 3, lines 19 through column 4, lines 1-7);

selecting a zoom area having a boundary intersecting the region (fig 1, element 150 an image synthesis circuit generates a stereoscopic image by synthesizing the left and right image signals are outputting from the D/A converter 105R, 105L and display 160 displays the stereoscopic image, column 3, lines 18- 26, column 5, lines 3-67, column 4, lines 27- 42, fig 6, column 4, lines 38- 65); and

shifting the zoom area by the parallax value or a function of the parallax value (column 4, lines 10- 65, column 5, lines 10-14, fig 9, fig 11, column 5, lines 23-61).

Regarding claim 2, argument analogous those presented for claim 1 are applicable to claim 2. Regarding comparing the parallax values in stereoscopic images as discloses by Katayama as follow comparing the parallax values for the intersected regions to determine a shift parallax value (fig 1, element 150 an image synthesis circuit generates a stereoscopic image by synthesizing the left and right image signals and

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outputting from the D/A converter 105R, 105L and display 160 displays the stereoscopic image, fig 9, shows two images are in superposed manner, in fig 10A, correction of vertical difference is done by phase difference detection unit in fig 7, element 130 and fig 10 B shows phase matching by the main object. The phase difference detection unit 130 receives, from the memories 104R, 104L, the image signals of the trimming areas are determined from the motion vectors and the convergence angle control signal, and detects the phase differences in the vertical and horizontal directions, utilizing calculation of correlation or template matching on thus entered image signals, and fig 11, column 5, lines 23- 66).

As to claim 3, Katayama discloses the method wherein the shift parallax value is the minimum parallax value of the intersected regions (column 4, lines 27 through column 5, line 67).

Other prior art cited

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Ono (US. 6,876,762 B1) discloses apparatus for imaging and image processing and method thereof.

Ishikawa et al., (US. 6,549, 650B1) discloses processing of image obtained by multiple-eye camera.


Muramoto et al., (US. 5, 627, 582) discloses stereoscopic with added phase reference.

Contact Information

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sheela C Chawan whose telephone number is. 571-272-7446. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 7.30 - 4.00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bhavesh Mehta can be reached on 571-272-7453. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Sheela Chawan
Patent Examiner
Group Art Unit 2625
April 13, 2005